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She was probably a criminal in her past life.

Mapait na tumawa si Eva sa isiping iyon. Pinahid niya ang luha sa pisngi at tumitig sa windshield ng kotse na hinahampas ng malakas na hangin at ulan.

Tumungga siya ng isa pang lagok ng *Jack Daniels* mula sa boteng hawak at marahas na pinunasan ang labi matapos mapaubo. Kahit ang katawan niya ay ayaw makisama sa kanya. Gusto niyang uminom at maglasing hanggang sa wala na siyang maalala.

Pero mauubos na niya ang alak ay malinaw na malinaw pa rin ang isip niya. Malinaw na malinaw pa rin sa kanyang alaala ang hitsura ng fiancé niya at ng haliparot nitong sekretarya na magkalingkis ang mga walang saplot na katawan. She could still hear their moans and groans as the two f*cked each other to oblivion. Tinakpan niya ang bibig at sumigaw siya sa kanyang palad. Kitang-kita pa rin niya ang mga ito sa isipan niya, nasa sahig, sa sahig ng mismong bahay na lilipatan nila ni Gedrick pagkatapos ng kasal nila sa isang linggo.

He and his secretary were screwing on the very

carpet she—Eva—chose with Gedrick himself last week. Sumigaw siya at inihampas ang bote ng alak sa bintana ng passenger seat. Nabasag ang bote at kumalat sa upuan at sahig ng sasakyan ang bubog at likido.

Napuno ng hikbi ang loob ng kanyang sasakyan. Kitang-kita pa niya sa isipan kung paanong malamig siyang tinitigan ng nobyo at kung paano sinabi nitong umalis muna siya at mag-uusap na lang sila bukas ng umaga.

Marahas siyang tumawa.

Yes, there was no ‘probably’ about it. Sigurado siya, kriminal siya nang nakaraang buhay niya. Dahil wala siyang makitang dahilan kung bakit kailangan niyang pagdaanan ito sa buhay niyang ito. Niyakap niya ang nanginginig na katawan.

She was Eva Eunice Alonzo—sweet, gentle, goody two-shoes Eva Alonzo. She was never rude or cruel to anybody, she always tried to please those around her, and she would never deliberately hurt anyone. She never said bad things about other people. Damn, she wouldn’t even dare beat a red light!

Mapait siyang tumawa habang humihikbi. Tila walang silbi ang pagiging mabait niya sa lahat, kahit

sa mismong ama niya na inaasahan niyang mag-aalaga at poprotekta sa kanya. Lalo siyang napahikbi sa mga alaala.

Umiiyak siyang nagtungo sa mansion ng daddy niya, sinabi niya rito ang nangyari, nakiusap siyang tapusin na nito ang engagement niya sa anak ng kasosyo nito. Naalala niya kung paanong kagaya ng nobyo ay malamig lang siyang tinitigan ng ama at sinabihang kumalma.

She laughed hysterically as her tears kept flowing madly.

Naalala niyang imbis na aluin siya at ipagtanggol, malamig lamang nitong sinabi na hindi niya maaaring tapusin ang engagement. May bumili ng malaking porsyento ng stocks nila at nanganganib na kainin ng isang malaking korporasyon ang maliit na real estate firm nila. Ipinagdiinan ng ama na tanging ang anak ni Congressman Rivero ang pag-asa nila.

Marahas siyang tumawa.

F*ck them all! She was through with them. She was through being nice and sweet. Wala iyong naitulong sa kanya kung hindi ang tapakan lang siya ng iba. Hindi na niya hahayaang gawin pa sa kanya iyon ng mga taong iyon.

Nanginginig niyang tinuyo ang mga pisngi at muli siyang tumitig sa daan. Narito pa rin siya sa Aurora, patungo sa isang lugar na alam niyang tatanggapin siya kahit paano. She was through with her bastard fiancé and equally bastard father. She was going to her old aunt and she would live there forever.

Kahit medyo lasing, muli niyang binuhay ang makina ng sasakyan at pinilit imaniobra ang kotse paahon sa lubak na kinasadlakan. Pero umugong lang nang umugong ang kotse at hindi nakausad kahit kaunti.

Sumigaw siya at hinampas ang manibela. Bakit ba nangyayari sa kanya ito? Ano ba ang ginawa niyang kasalanan at pati ang panahon ay pinarurusahan siya?

She was a *Green Peace* member, damn it!

Umiiyak niyang binuksan ang pinto ng kotse. Lumabas siya nang hindi nag-iisip. Agad siyang nabasa ng malakas na ulan pero wala siyang pakialam. Tinadyakan niya ang gulong na lumubog sa lubak ng putik.

“I hate everyone! I hate everyone!” she screamed amidst the pouring rain. Ilang beses pa niyang tinadyakan ang gulong hanggang sa manghina siya.

Nanginginig niyang niyakap ang sarili at dumausdos siya nang mapasandal sa sasakyan.

Kung nasa tamang huwisyo siya ay maiisip niyang mapanganib ang sitwasyon niyang iyon. Madilim sa paligid at puro mga puno at talahib ang nasa paligid. Maaaring walang *NPA* sa lugar ngunit delikado pa rin para sa isang babaeng kagaya niya ang ma-stuck sa gitna ng bulubunduking parteng iyon ng Aurora. But in her state, she could not care less if she was in the middle of a war zone in Afghanistan.

Umiyak siya nang umiyak sa gilid ng kanyang kotse. Hanggang sa masilaw siya sa sinag galing sa isang sasakyan. Nanginginig siyang tumayo.

Isa iyong four wheel drive, hindi kagaya ng *Toyota Yaris* sedan, tamang-tama ang malalaking gulong niyon para sa malubak at mabatong daan sa gilid ng bundok. Walang hirap na binagtas ng malaking sasakyan ang daan palapit sa kotse niya. Pagkatapos ay huminto ito nang tila maaninag siya.

Bumukas ang pinto sa driver's side at may bumaba mula roon. Muli, kung nasa tama siyang huwisyo, mas naging alerto siguro siya at mas naging maingat. Pero nang mga oras na iyon ay wala na siyang lakas para matakot. She did not know who this person was and she did not give a flying f*ck.

“Are you okay?” It was a deep masculine voice.

Gusto niyang tumawa. Mukha ba siyang okay? Lumapit ang lalaki sa kanya. Mula sa liwanag ng fog lamp ng kotse nito na tumatama sa likod nito, malinaw niyang naaninag ang bulto ng estranghero.

He was tall, perhaps around six feet and three inches, definitely way taller than that asshole Gedrick. He was well-built too. Malapad ang mga balikat nito at dahil sa pagkabasa nito sa ulan, kumapit nang husto sa katawan ng lalaki ang suot nitong puting T-shirt. It showed the well-defined muscles of his torso. He reminded her of discussions about Greek gods—the man being so tall and lean, all hard muscles and testosterone it seemed.

Umiiyak pa rin na tinitigan niya ang mukha nito.

Nakalapit na ito sa kanya at mula sa pinagsamang liwanag galing sa kotse niya at sa sasakyan nito, napagtanto niyang hindi lang katawan nito ang tila kawangis ng diyos sa *Olympus*. Even in her depressed state, his handsome face clearly registered in her mind. Dark wet hair was plastered across his forehead as water continuously dripped down his long eyelashes, sliding across his high cheekbones down to his strong jaw.

His sensual lips moved and he seemed to be asking her a question. Pero hindi niya iyon narinig. Nanatili siyang umiiyak habang nakatitig sa tila napakalambot nitong mga labi.

Gusto niyang tumawa. Sigurado siya, umeepekto na ang *Jack Daniels* sa kanya. Marahas niyang pinahid ang basang mukha.

“Did you hear a word I said?” Hinawakan nito ang balikat niya at bahagya siyang niyugyog.

Walang manggas ang suot niyang itim na bestida at napakainit ng palad nito sa napakalamig niyang balat. Malalim ang paghinga na itinaas niya ang mga mata rito. She found herself staring into a pair of dark, piercing eyes.

“Are you okay? Are you hurt?” Mababa at medyo paos ang tinig nito.

Napalunok siya at parang biglang nanuyo ang kanyang mga labi. That was stupid. Hindi maaaring manuyo ang mga labi niya. The rain was pelting mercilessly on her for Pete’s sake.

Pero inilabas pa rin niya ang dila at binasa ang tila nanuyong mga labi. She tasted the rain on her tongue. Nakita niyang bumaba roon ang titig ng binata. She saw his eyes follow the movement of her

tongue. She saw him swallow and his eyes flickered back to hers. It must have been her imagination, but his already dark eyes seemed to have gone darker.

“Are you hurt?” Tila naging mas paos din ang boses nito.

Pinilit niya ang sariling umiling. “No, I’m not.” Paos din ang tinig niya.

Iniiwas nito ang titig sa kanya at sinipat ang sasakyan niya.

“You have a flat tire,” he said abruptly.

Sa narinig ay muli siyang napaiyak. Bumalik ang lahat ng hinagpis niya sa mundo. Of course, hindi lang nalugmok sa lubak ang gulong niya, kailangan ma-flat din iyon!

Pinalis niya ang luha sa mga pisngi. It was as if everything was against her. Ano ang susunod? Serial killer ba ang lalaking ito?

“I’ll give you a ride. Come on, it’s dangerous for you to stay here like this.” Pinal at matatag na ang tinig nito.

Pero mabilis siyang umiling. Hindi niya kailangan ng tulong. She just wanted to stay right there and be miserable.

“I’m okay, just leave me here.”

“You expect me to leave you like this?”

Hinagod nito ng tingin ang buong katawan niya at sa kabila ng sitwasyon ay may kung anong init na dumaan sa kanyang sistema. Doon niya napagtanto ang hitsura niya. The little black dress she was wearing was plastered indecently to her curves. Bakat na bakat doon ang buong katawan niya dahil basa siya sa ulan. It hugged her breasts, her flat tummy, even the V between her legs. She could even see the hardening peaks of her breasts straining against the soft material despite her lace brassiere.

Nag-init ang kanyang mga pisngi at nayakap niya ang sarili. She wanted to cry, this time, in shame.

Narinig niyang napahugot ng hangin ang lalaki.

“Come on, magkakasakit ka sa ginagawa mo.” Hinawakan siya nito sa braso at hinila siya papunta sa *Hummer* nito.

She was too embarrassed, miserable, and weak to protest.

Binuksan nito ang side ng passenger seat at iginiya siya sa loob. “Do you need something from your car? Do you want me to get it for you?” he asked.

Wala sa sarili siyang tumango. “Yes, please. Iyong hand bag ko.” Sinabi niya kung nasaan iyon.

Isinara nito ang pinto sa side niya at tumakbo pabalik sa kanyang kotse.

Nanginginig niyang niyakap ang sarili.

She was really pathetic. Heto siya at mukhang basang sisiw na tinutulungan ng kung sino. He probably thought she was a lunatic seeing her like this. Hanga siya sa lakas ng loob nito na magpaka-Good Samaritan sa kanya.

Nahihiya na pilit niyang tinatakpan ng mga braso ang katawan. Sigurado siyang halos mukha na siyang hubad sa pagkakahakab ng damit sa kanya. She felt so ashamed. No one, not even Gedrick, had seen her naked before.

Sa alaala ng ex-fiancé ay umahon ang magkahalong galit at pait sa kanyang sikmura. She sneered at the thought of the worthless pig.

Bakit niya kailangang alalahanin ang taong iyon? Bakit niya kailangang mag-alala kung may lalaking nakakita sa kanyang halos hubad na? Bakit niya kailangang mag-alala kung hindi siya mukhang disente? Dahil natatakot siya sa sasabihin ng iba? Sa magiging epekto niyon sa reputasyon ng ama at sa

mabangong pangalan ng fiancé niya?

Naikuyom niya ang palad. Tapos na siya roon. Wala na siyang pakialam sa mga iyon. She was through being *Miss Goody Two-Shoes* anymore.

Bumukas ang pinto ng driver's seat at pumasok ang lalaki. He was like a graceful big cat as he slid inside the vehicle.

Eva was five feet eight, pero sa laki ng estranghero, parang ang liit ng pakiramdam niya. Parang lumiit din ang loob ng sasakyan sa laki ng bulto nito. Tila uminit din ang loob ng air-conditioned *Hummer* nito.

Nilingon siya nito at iniabot ang bag niya. Nakita niyang sinikap nito, pero hindi napigilang padaanin muli ang mga mata sa kanyang katawan. She saw his hungry eyes rake over her long bare legs, lingering on the mound between her thighs, swiftly gazing on her flat stomach before finally landing on her full breasts.

A heat she had never felt before tingled at the peaks of her breasts. She felt them harden even more, not from the cold, but from something else. Napalalim ang hininga niya habang lantarang nakatitig sa kanya ang lalaki. Something between her legs pulsed and she was shocked when she felt something warm and creamy flowed between her womanly folds.

Napaawang ang labi niya.

She had *never* felt this way before.

Napaangat ang mga mata ng lalaki at nagtama ang kanilang paningin. Tila ninakaw nito ang kanyang hininga. The hunger in his eyes was blatant.

Tila lalong uminit ang loob ng sasakyan. The wet warmth between her thighs intensified until she could feel herself pulsing in a pool of desire. Namula ang kanyang mga pisngi. How could she feel this way? This was a stranger! At kasasaksi pa lang niya sa ginawa ng ex-fiancé niya! Pero imbis na pahupain ng alaala ng kataksilan ni Gedrick ang kanyang katawan ay lalo lamang nitong pinaigting iyon.

Her jaw hardened as she stared at the insanely handsome man.

Why would she care about what others would say? Why would she feel bad about what she was feeling right now? Nasa tamang edad na siya. Sigurado siyang nasa tamang edad na rin ang lalaking ito. Wala na siyang relasyon sa kahit na sino. Why would she feel ashamed? Why should she act like a prudish schoolgirl—blushing at the thought of sexual desire?

“Your bag,” paos nitong sambit habang hawak

ang clutch bag niya.

Lumunok siya at tinitigan iyon. Malaki ang kamay nito at napakaalangan ng hitsura ng pula niyang bag sa kamay nito. She wondered how it would feel like to have those big hands roughly squeezing her breasts.

Muli siyang napalunok at napatitig sa mga mata nito. Mariin pa rin itong nakatitig sa kanya na tila ba tinatantya ang reaksiyon niya.

Humugot siya ng malalim na hininga. His eyes flickered to her heaving breasts then. His own breathing turned heavy as he stared at the twin mounds on her chest. Iyon yata ang huling bagay na kailangan niya.

All her inhibitions, all her sense of shame, all her brains flew out into the rain. She felt bold, daring... alive. A switch was turned on inside her and it was as if someone she never knew existed broke to the surface of her skin.

Like a seductress straight from every man's naughty fantasy, she moved onto his lap. His eyes darkened even more as she straddled him. Awtomatikong napahawak ito sa kanyang balakang. An exhilarating feeling of feminine power flooded her senses as she felt his huge, pulsating arousal directly

beneath her soft mound.

“Do you have a girlfriend?” usal niya gamit ang isang tinig na hindi niya aakalaing sa kanya.

“No.” His voice was rough and low.

“A fiancée, a wife? Someone who would kill us for doing something inappropriate?”

Nanatiling malalim ang paghinga nito, ang mga kamay ay humahaplos na sa magkabila niyang hita. “No, no and no. What about you? Do you have a boyfriend, a fiancé or a husband?” Dumiin ang mga daliri nito sa kanyang balakang na para bang ang isipin na may nobyo, fiancé o asawa siya ay ikagagalit nito.

Tumawa siya. It was meant to be derisive but it came out low and throaty. Possessive, jealous—she would not believe he actually felt that way right now. But she would like to think so.

She licked her lips and saw his eyes following her tongue.

She was done teasing. She was through being nice and sweet. She wanted this man.

“No,” ang tangi niyang sagot bago inilapat ang nakaawang na mga labi rito.

His response was automatic. His mouth opened widely for her, allowing her tongue to slide in his mouth. She moaned as their tongues mated. He tasted like the rain, like dark chocolate, like every woman's sinful desire. She moaned in his mouth as his wicked tongue massaged hers and she wondered how it would feel like to have his soft lips and tongue on other parts of her body—on her breasts, on her stomach, between her legs...

Pumulupot ang mga daliri nito sa kanyang basang buhok habang ang isang kamay nito ay humaplos sa kanyang pang-upo. He molded her buttocks in his palm and pulled her fiercely against his moving hips. The feel of his jean-clad arousal rubbing against her lace covered flesh brought dizzying shocks of pleasure to her core. It vibrated into tingling heat and spread throughout her whole body.

Itinulak niya ito at hinila ang isang kamay nito papunta sa kanyang dibdib. "Touch me."

Bahagyang naningkit ang mga mata nito, tila hindi nito gusto na inuutusan ito. Muntikan na siyang tumawa. Men and their oversized egos...

Kinagat niya ang pang-ibabang labi nito.

"Please..." she breathed as her tongue darted

inside his mouth again. That seemed to appease him. Muling nagniig ang kanilang mga dila at hinagilap nito ang zipper ng bestida niya. Naramdaman niyang ibinaba nito iyon at tinulungan niya itong ibaba ang damit sa kanyang baywang. Hinawakan siya nito sa balikat at marahas siyang itinulak.

Hindi pa siya nagmumulat nang maramdaman niya ang pagpunit nito sa lace niyang pangloob. She opened her eyes just in time to see his big hands squeezing her full breasts.

Napadaing siya at naisandal ang ulo sa manibela. Liquid desire flowed copiously between her legs as she watched him knead and squeeze her full rounded globes. His big, dark hands were a contrast against her pale skin. His palm felt so hot around her cold flesh. She panted and moaned as he squeezed and massaged her. Then he was leaning down and taking one pointed peak into his mouth. Her eyes drifted close and she moaned out loud. Napasabunot siya sa buhok nito.

He suckled on her left breast and she went dizzy and weak with the pleasure she was feeling. The ache between her legs pulsated in time with the sucking motion of his lips. Her core pulsed and pulsed, gushing out creamy desire until she was sure

she was drenching his crotch.

He let go of her breast. She was going to voice out her protest when his hot mouth closed over its twin. She cried out as he softly bit her.

Napuno ng kanilang marahas na paghinga at pag-ungol ang loob ng sasakyan. His mouth was still on her breast when his hands found their way beneath her dress. Hinila nito pataas ang laylayan ng kanyang suot hanggang sa naipon na iyon sa kanyang baywang. Then she felt him tearing her lace underwear like a piece of tissue paper.

Nagmulat siya at tinitigan ito sa ilalim ng kanyang pilikmata. Nakapikit ito habang hinahagkan ang dibdib niya. He was so beautiful—like the storm, like the sea. Nagmulat ito at tumitig sa kanya. She almost got lost in those eyes until she felt his fingers sliding across her wetness. She gasped, her hips moving instinctively in time with his stroke. Inilapit nito ang mukha sa kanya.

“Name,” he breathed. She moaned as his fingers delved inside her tight wet channel.

“Eva... yours?” Pinanatili niya ang sariling nakamulat habang nakatitig sa madilim nitong mga mata. He thrust his fingers a little too roughly and

she gasped in pleasure-pain.

“Damien.” At muli nitong inangkin ang kanyang mga labi.

His taste flooded her senses until she couldn't think anymore. Narinig niya ang pagbaba ng zipper ng pantalon nito at natagpuan niya ang sariling nanginginig at nahihilo. Her hand unconsciously found their way between them and she found her fingers wrapping possessively around his thick, burning rod. He was huge; he felt so hot, so hard and so silky smooth beneath her palm. He buried his face in her shoulder before thrusting repeatedly into her hand.

His groans made her bolder. She gripped his thick shaft and pumped him a little harder.

“F*ck,” mura nito sa kanyang balik. Napangiti siya at pinadaan ang kabilang kamay sa maikli nitong buhok. He had such silky hair. Then before she knew it, he was grabbing a fistful of her hair and slamming her mouth to his. Halos wala siyang panahon para mapagtanto ang ginagawa nito. Bumaon ang mga daliri nito sa kanyang baywang at inangat siya nito. Then his thick, steely length was poised at her entrance. Before she could blink, he pulled her hips down to him. She cried out in his mouth, his hard

length penetrating her tightness so deeply she felt like he would split her in two.

“Damien!” Bumaon ang mga daliri niya sa balikat nito.

Agad itong napahinto at nanlalaki ang mga mata nitong napatitig sa kanya. Mainit ang kanyang mga mata dahil sa luha.

It had hurt!

Nakaawang ang mga labi nito habang nakatitig sa kanya. Kung iba ang sitwasyon, baka tumawa siya. He looked absolutely cute open-mouthed and his eyes wide like that. But she couldn't even move a muscle; he was so freaking huge it hurt. It hurt like hell.

Mariin siyang pumikit at pinilit ang sariling kalimutan ang sakit. She was good at that. Noon pa man ay magaling na siya sa pagbalewala sa mga masasakit na bagay sa buhay niya.

Then she felt his fingers softly playing with the nub just above her opening. Napasinghap siya at napamulat.

Nakatiim-bagang ang binata at mariing nakatitig din sa kanya.

“Damien—”

“Don’t move, if you can, don’t even breathe.” He looked so grim it was scary.

Lumunok siya at sinubukang sundin ito. Pero naging mahirap iyon nang maramdaman niya ang tila maliliit na boltahe ng kuryente na pumipintig muli sa kanyang kaibuturan.

She gasped as his fingers rolled over the now angry bud in the apex of her thighs. Her fingers dug at his shoulders as sharp waves of pleasure pulsed inside her. Her walls quivered and tightened around his thick shaft and she couldn’t help moving her hips to feel more of him. The feel of him stretching her and going deeper inside her made her moan.

Napamura ulit ito. He gripped her hips and started moving slowly. But she did not want him slow. She wanted him hard and fast. Humigpit ang yakap niya rito at kusang gumalaw ang balakang niya para tanggapin ito.

“Faster... harder!” she moaned as she thrust her hips against him.

Tila doon naputol ang lahat ng pagpipigil nito. He gripped her harder and he started ramming himself inside her. She gasped and hugged him tightly. There was still pain but it was mixed with a sharp kind of

pleasure. She found herself grinding shamelessly against him.

He grunted as their bodies mated in the primal dance. Madiin ang hawak nito sa kanyang balakang at sigurado siyang magkakapasa siya roon. Pero wala siyang pakialam. She just wanted him to hold her.

Pumulupot ang mga daliri nito sa kanyang buhok at hinila siya nito. His mouth sought hers in a hungry kiss. Their hips ground together as their tongues dueled and danced.

Then she was gasping and whimpering in his mouth. Her body stiffened as her walls tensed around him. Umungol ito sa kanyang bibig at dumiin ang hawak sa kanyang balakang. Then he was thrusting harder and faster once more, his hardness going so deep she found herself quivering into endless spasms.

Tila naubos ang lahat ng lakas niya nang sa wakas ay marating din nito ang sukduhan. He grunted her name as his release flooded her womb.

Sa likod ng isip niya ay alam niyang delikado iyon. She could get pregnant and even get sick! Ni hindi niya kilala ang lalaking ito!

But she was too spent and too sated to care. She would deal with the consequences later. Naging

Reckless Passion - Dior Madrigal

mabuting nilalang siya halos buong buhay niya. Sa tingin niya ay palalagpasin naman siguro siya kung isang pagkakamali lang.

Sinubukan niyang manatiling gising pero hindi niya magawa.

She just felt so tired and sleepy.

Iniyakap niya ang mga braso rito at isinandal ang pisngi sa balikat nito. Naramdaman niya ang marahang pagyakap din nito. Isang maliit na ngiti ang sumilay sa kanyang labi.

By now she was sure she'd committed a big mistake. But he felt so warm and comforting.

Nakatulog siya matapos ang ilang segundo.

2

A virgin. A freaking virgin.

Naisuklay ni Damien ang mga daliri sa basang buhok. Akala niya ay alamat na lang ang mga babaeng gaya nito.

Pinanatili niya ang tingin sa unahan habang binabagtas ang daan papunta sa bahay bakasyunan sa bulubunduking parte ng Dipaculao, Aurora. Malakas pa rin ang ulan at hangin sa labas kaya kailangan niyang maging maingat sa pagmamaneho.

Hindi niya napigilang sulyapan ang babaeng natutulog sa kanyang tabi. Itinabing niya rito ang jacket niya para hindi ito masyadong lamigin. She shivered in her sleep and he frowned worriedly. He had to get her out of her wet dress fast or she might get sick. The thought of peeling away her little black gown drew his attention back to his arousal again. He had been hard and ready for another around right after she fell asleep.

Inis niyang ibinaling muli ang lahat ng atensyon sa daan. Naisuklay niya muli ang mga daliri sa buhok.

What was she doing there in the middle of

nowhere anyway? Napailing siya sa sarili. Nang makita niya ito kanina, akala niya ay nananaginip siya. She looked like a forest nymph as crouched in her wet little dress in the middle of that God-forsaken road. For a moment he thought she was a temptress sent by the gods to pleasure him for the night. Pero nakita niyang umiiyak ito. Napailing ulit siya sa sarili at napasulyap muli rito.

She was still sleeping like a baby. Napabuntong-hininga siya at inayos sandali ang jacket para mas matabingan ito. Itinuon niya ulit ang tingin sa daan.

He still could not get over the fact that she was—had been a virgin. Seriously, he thought virgins were akin to unicorns—sa mga kuwento na lamang matatagpuan. And the way she touched and kissed him made him think that she was an experienced woman. But her purity, as evidenced by the red stain on his jeans, seemed to be glaring at him. That and the memory of her barrier resisting as he thrust inside her tight heat wouldn't stop reminding him.

Napaungol siya sa sarili. Dapat na niya talagang itigil ang tinatakbo ng isip.

Having a painful hard on, and the woman causing it just within his reach, when he needed his attention focused on the mountainous road in the middle of a

storm were not good combinations.

Napailing muli siya at pinuwersa ang sarili na huwag na ulit itong lingunin. Matapos ang kalahating oras ay natanaw na niya ang bahay bakasyunan. Matapos ang ilang minuto ay nasa driveway na siya. Nakita niyang may sumalubong sa kanya dala ang isang payong. Si Manong Silverio, katiwala niya sa villa.

“Kamusta, Sir!” bati nito nang buksan niya ang pinto sa side niya.

“Okay lang, Manong. P’wedeng pakikuha na lang ho ’yung mga gamit ko sa likod? May kasama ’ko.”

Tumango ang matanda at sumunod. Hinarap niya si Eva at maingat na kinarga. Hindi na siya nag-abala sa payong. They were still wet anyway.

Mabilis niyang tinungo ang main door ng bahay. Nakabukas iyon. Dumerecho siya sa silid niya, sa banyo. Doon ay maingat niyang ibinaba ang babae sa bathtub. Nanatiling mahimbing na natutulog ang dalaga.

“Eva.” Marahan niya itong hinawakan sa pisngi. Her eyelids fluttered but she did not open her eyes. “Eva, you need to wake up, you need to take a warm bath.”

Ang tanging sagot nito ay ang pag-ungol at pagbaluktot sa bathtub. Napabuntong-hininga siya habang nakatitig sa natutulog na dalaga. She looked so peaceful while she slept, her pretty face serene and slightly flushed. Napababa ang tingin niya sa mga labi nito. They were moist and slightly parted.

Ipiniksi niya ang ulo. He had to stop acting like a horny dog. Humagilap siya ng alcohol at bimpo, kumuha ng palangganita at pinuno iyon ng mainit-init na tubig galing sa shower head. Nilagyan niya ng alcohol ang tubig at inilublob doon ang bimpo. Mabilis siyang kumilos at tinanggal ang damit ng dalaga. Hindi niya pinansin ang reaksiyon ng sariling katawan at itinuon lang ang atensyon sa pagpupunas ng bimpo sa katawan nito. Inisip niya na tatay niya ang pinupunasan niya. Madalas niyang ginagawa ito noon sa ama nang ma-stroke ito.

Matapos tuyuin at balutin ng makapal na tuwalya ang dalaga ay bumalik siya sa silid. Naroon na ang mga bagahe niya. Binuksan niya ang isa sa mga iyon at kumuha siya ng boxer shorts at malaking T-shirt. Akmang babalik siya sa ensuite bathroom nang kumatok si Manong Silverio.

“Sir, may kailangan pa kayo?” magalang na tanong ng matanda.

“Wala na, dito na kayo sa villa matulog. Delikado na 'ata sa labas.”

Umiling ito. “Okay lang, Sir, malapit lang 'yung bahay namin. Tatawag na lang ako kapag nakarating na 'ko.”

Tumango siya at umalis na 'to. Binalikan niya si Eva.

Natutulog pa rin ito sa bathtub. Her pinkish skin looked so soft and smooth underneath the stark light of the bathroom. He swallowed as his eyes raked over her now covered chest. She had perfect breasts, not small, not too big, just enough for his hands to cup and massage.

Muli siyang umiling sa sarili. Nilapitan niya ito at maingat na binihisan. She mumbled something as he did so. Hindi niya napigilan ang pagngiti. She looked so cute and pretty as she grumbled in her sleep.

Matapos itong mabihisan ay pinangko niya ito at dinala sa silid. He laid her carefully on the bed and covered her up to her chin.

Ngayong nakumutan na niya ito ay saka lang siya nakahinga nang maayos. Umupo siya sa couch at tinitigan ito.

Hindi niya talaga alam kung ano ang nangyari. It was not like him to have random sex with anyone. Sure he had his own share of women but he was not the type to go in for one-night stands. He chose his women carefully. Tingin niya ay hindi naman siya masisisi. With the kind of mother he had, he could not help being paranoid and cautious toward the opposite sex.

Naihilamos niya ang kamay sa mukha. He was tired. Ayaw na muna niyang mag-isip. And damn, there were so many things to think about. Like the fact that he didn't use protection.

Muli niyang tinitigan ang dalaga. Napakahimbing ng tulog nito habang siya ay nag-aalboroto. Sumimangot siya. She was so peacefully sleeping, he could not help feeling annoyed.

She really had him messed up. Dapat ay papasadahan niya ngayong gabi ang ilang reports tungkol sa binili niyang stocks ng ilang real estate firms dito sa Baler. His uncle put up an office here in Aurora, and Damien visited to check on the old man and the business. But after his night with Eva, his mind was just too muddled to think of anything else.

Nahilot niya ang sentido at pinilit ang sariling maging komportable sa couch. Wala siyang lakas ng

loob na tumabi rito. He would take her again if he slept in the same bed with her, he was sure of it. He was not even sure if he should sleep in the same room as her. Napailing siya sa sarili habang matamang nakatitig sa maganda nitong mukha.

He still could not believe that she was a virgin.

Hindi alam ni Damien kung anong oras na siya nakatulog. He supposed he dozed off staring at Eva. Ang alam lang niya ay naalimpungatan siya sa pagtunog ng alarm ng cellphone niya. Napaupo siya sa couch. Pag-angat ng tingin niya, nakita niyang hindi lang siya ang nagising ng alarm.

Nakita niyang naalimpungatan din ang dalaga. Pinanood niya ang pagbiling ng ulo nito at ang pagmulat ng mga mata. Magulo ang buhok at namumula ang mga pisngi at mga labi nito. That must be how *Sleeping Beauty* looked like right after her hundred years of sleep. Napakagat-labi siya. Now *that* was cheesy.

Hinintay niyang tuluyang rumehistro sa dalaga ang lugar at ang mga nangyari kagabi. Nang manlaki ang mga mata nito at bigla itong mapaupo, alam niyang naalala na nito ang lahat. Lumipad ang mga

mata nito palibot sa silid at bumagsak ang paningin nito sa kanya.

He saw her big brown eyes widen further as she stared at him.

Pigil-hiningang hinintay niya ang pagsigaw at pagwawala nito. Pero imbis na sumigaw at isumpa siya, nanatili itong walangkibo, basta nakaawang ang mga labi at malalaki ang mga matang nakatitig sa kanya. Nag-aalala siyang tumayo.

“Eva.”

“Damien, right?”

Natigilan siya sa kalmado nitong tinig. “Yes,” maingat niyang sagot.

Humugot ito ng malalalim na hininga na tila ba kinakalma ang sarili. Isinuklay ng dalaga ang nanginginig na mga daliri sa mahaba nitong buhok at muli siyang hinarap. There was shame in her eyes but they also reflected a composure he did not expect.

“You probably think I’m a slut.”

Nagulat siya sa sinabi nito.

Could virgins be sluts? He was probably being biased because he really liked Eva. Then again, he

didn't think so.

“Of course not,” tapat niyang sagot.

Pagod itong ngumiti at ipiniksi ang ulo. “I had an awful day yesterday and I was a little drunk. I seemed to be on the end of my line and I felt terrible inside. Hindi ko dapat ginawa ang ginawa ko. It was stupid.”

His body relaxed a little as he stared at her calm face.

So it was the classic story. Good girl gone bad because of a rough day. Hindi maiwasang masaling ang ego niya. Kung ganoon, ibig bang sabihin, kahit sino pa ang nakakitang lalaki rito kagabi ay ganoon pa rin ang mangyayari? Hindi niya napigilan ang pagdilim ng mukha.

“I'm not saying it's your fault or that you took advantage of me,” mabilis nitong saad nang makita ang pagsimangot niya. “I... I was a little drunk but I know what I was doing, we both consented and... and... I liked it... so I'm not blaming you or anything, okay?” Pulang-pula ang mukha nito.

Naramdaman niya ang pagkibot ng labi. “You liked it?”

Lalo itong namula, pagkatapos ay umungol ito

at inilibing ang mukha sa unan. “Jerk,” she muttered.

Natagpuan niya ang sariling tumatawa. He was being insensitive but she was just so cute.

“I’m sorry. It’s okay, Eva, if you’re okay with it, then there’s really no problem. I obviously enjoyed it, too.”

Bumuntong-hininga ito at tinitigan siya sa ilalim ng mga pilikmata. Namumula pa rin ito. “You didn’t use protection.”

Sasabihin niya sanang hindi naman ito nagreklamo kagabi pero alam niyang foul iyon. He could be an asshole sometimes and he was not proud of it.

“Yes, I didn’t. I’m sorry.”

“No, it’s my fault too. Pero siguro ’wag na muna nating isipin. Let’s just cross the bridge when we get there.”

Saktong pagkasabi noon ay kumalam ang sikhura nito. Namula muli ang mga pisngi ng babae pagkatapos ay tumawa ito. It was not a throaty laugh but it made his insides flutter just the same.

“Oh, God, this is so embarrassing.” Pinawi nito ang ilang luha sa mga mata na dulot ng sobrang pagtawa. “You always seem to catch me at my worse. So, do

you have food here? Where are we anyway?” Sinipat nito ang malaking bintana sa likuran niya. Nakahawi ang kurtina at kapansin-pansin na malakas pa rin ang ulan sa labas.

“You’re taking this all very calmly,” hindi niya maiwasang sabihin. Imbis na mailang o magalit sa komento niya, malungkot lang itong ngumiti.

“I know. A part of me wants to cry and be hysterical but what’s the use? Nangyari na, I just have to move on and deal with it. I’m a big girl. So I lost my virginity to a stranger. But there are so much more important things in my life. It’s not the end of the world. There’s no use crying over spilt milk.”

Kaswal itong bumangon mula sa higaan at muli, hindi niya napigilan ang bahagyang pagsimangot. Damien did not know what he was expecting, but with her acting as if what happened between them was unimportant, he couldn’t help feeling bothered.

Pagtayo nito ay nakita niyang bahagya itong napangiwi. Agad siyang napatayo sa couch para alalayan ito.

“Does it hurt? Want some pain killers?”

“Do you have some? I seem to hurt all over,” tila hiyang-hiya nitong pag-amin.

Napamura siya. “I’m sorry. I didn’t know you were a virgin so I wasn’t careful. I shouldn’t have—”

Tinakpan nito ng palad nito ang kanyang bibig. For a moment, he had this overwhelming urge to lick her palm.

“Uh... can we not talk about that? I’m okay really, just a little sore.” Binawi nito ang kamay at iniwas ang tingin sa kanya.

Napabuntong-hininga siya at napahawak sa batok.

“Okay, I’m sorry. The bathroom’s over there if you want to freshen up. May painkillers sa shelf d’un. Or do you want to go to the kitchen now?”

“No, maghihilamos na muna ’ko.”

“Okay, hintayin na lang kita sa kitchen, maliit lang ’tong villa, I’m sure you’ll find it.”

Nagtagumpay siyang pangitiin ito. He found himself grinning proudly.

“Yes, don’t worry, kapag naligaw ako, tatawagan na lang kita.”

“Are you asking for my number?” He wanted it to sound cocky and flirty but it came out hopeful and

boyish. Napangiwi siya sa sarili, he sounded like a teenager with a big crush!

She rolled her eyes but the flush in her cheeks told him she was affected by his teasing.

“Later, Damien.” Tumalikod na ito at tinungo ang banyo. Pero bago tuluyang pumasok doon ay nilingon siya nito.

Nakakunot-noo ito. “You didn’t change clothes last night?”

Napakunot-noo din siya at napatingin sa sarili. Iyon pa rin nga ang suot niya kagabi. Nagkibit-balikat siya.

“You changed my clothes but you didn’t change yours. You could get sick, you know.”

He simply shrugged again. “It’s much more interesting to change yours.”

“Ha-ha,” sarkastiko nitong tawa.

Natagpuan niya ang sariling nakangisi ulit.

“I’m serious, Damien. Magpalit ka, basa pa rin ’ata ’yang damit mo. You may be healthy and hunky but you’re not Superman.”

Bago pa siya makapag-react sa papuri nitong

'hunky' siya ay agad na itong pumasok sa banyo.

Natagpuan niya ang sariling nakangiti pa rin.

“You are so f*cked, Damien,” naiiling na sambit niya sa sarili. Mabilis siyang kumuha ng damit sa isang bag. Kinatok niya ito sa banyo. “Eva, I’ll shower in the next room. Punta ka na lang sa kitchen, you could wait for me or you could fix yourself anything you want. The pantry’s stocked.”

“Okay! Go and shower, I’ll cook breakfast. May allergies ka ba sa pagkain na kailangan kong malaman?”

Ngumiti siya. “None, I’m really healthy and hunky.”

“Haha!” she repeated in the same tone.

Still grinning, he walked out of the room.

Matapos ang mabilis na shower ay agad din siyang nagbihis. Palabas na siya ng kuwarto nang tumunog ang cellphone niya. Agad niya iyong sinagot. It was his uncle.

“Uncle.” Hindi muna siya lumabas ng silid. Sigurado siyang trabaho ang itinawag ng tiyuhin.

“Nasa villa ka na?”

“Yes, dumating ako kagabi.”

“Malakas ba ang ulan d’yan?”

“Sobra, I’m not sure if it’s safe to travel right now. Pahuhupain ko muna ang ulan bago ko tingnan ’yung mga sites at ’yung office natin.”

“Okay. The formal acquisition can be done this week. Pero bago ’yon, I’d like you to attend a formal party for the opening of our office d’yan sa Baler. Okay na lahat, you just have to show up. Kung makikisama ang panahon, tuloy iyon sa darating na Sabado.”

Napangiti siya sa kausap. His uncle really had everything prepared. Nang mamatay ang tatay niya noong seventeen siya, ito na ang tumayong tatay niya at ito na ang tumulong sa pagpapatuloy ng kompanya. Thanks to his gold-digger of a mother, halos ma-bankrupt sila noong fourteen siya. Pagkatapos ay iniwan sila nito nang ma-stroke ang kanyang ama. Kung hindi sa uncle niya na nagpasyang iwan ang propesyon nito bilang Engineering professor sa tanyag na unibersidad sa bansa, matagal nang bumagsak ang *Griego Constructions*.

“You’re still treating me like a kid, Uncle. I’m thirty-one not fifteen, you seem to want me

dependent on you,” nakangiti niyang sambit. Walang anak ang tiyo at siya na ang itinuring nitong anak nang mamatay ang kapatid nito.

“That’s nonsense. I’m just trying to ease your workload. Alam ko kung gaano ka ka-busy nitong nakaraan dahil sa project natin sa Batanes. I just want to let you have this one week vacation properly.”

Totoo ang sinabi nito. Ilang buwan din siyang naging abala sa proyektong iyon. Eight years ago, nang magsimula siya sa kompanya, pinasok ng kanilang construction firm ang real estate. At ngayon nga, isa na sila sa malalaking developers sa bansa. Matapos ang hotel sa Batanes, mga resorts dito sa Aurora ang sunod nilang proyekto.

“Thanks, Uncle.”

“Stay safe, okay? Darating din ako sa opening, aasikasuhin ko lang ’yung iba pang kailangan para sa takeover.”

“Okay, see you.”

“Beware of gold-diggers, okay?” Pabiro ang tono nito pero alam niyang seryoso ito. Hindi niya mapigil ang mapait na pagngiti.

He supposed they were all deeply scarred by

his mother. Hindi sikreto sa pamilya na pinakasalan lang ng ina ang tatay niya dahil sa pera. His mother cheated on his father even when his father was still healthy. At nang mabaldado ang ama at bumagsak ang negosyo nila, tuluyan na nitong iniwan sila. He swallowed hard as he thought of his no good mother.

“Sige, Uncle.”

“See you, Son.” Iyon lang at pinutol na nito ang tawag.

Kinailangan niya ng ilang segundo para kolektahin ang sarili. He could feel three decades worth of anger simmering beneath his skin. Remembering his mother did that to him. Humugot siya ng hangin at hinilot ang noo. Nang kahit papaano ay kumalma na, saka lang siya lumabas ng silid.

Agad siyang sinalubong ng isang matamis na aroma. Sinundan niya iyon at dinala siya ng mga paa sa kusina.

Nakatalikod ang dalaga at bahagyang nakadukwang dahil may kinukuha sa loob ng oven. He found himself staring at her shapely butt. Eva was still wearing his shirt and boxers. He tried not to think about it, but as he stared at her derriere, all he could think about was her delectable body. She

had no undies to cover her now. He should know, pinunit niya ang lace brassiere at panties nito at siya ang nagbihis dito kagabi.

His maleness stirred and he wanted to groan. Napailing siya sa sarili.

Tumuwid ang dalaga at humarap sa kanya.

“Oh,” anito. Nakayapak ito at may kaunting cream sa pisngi.

Napakagat-labi siya. He was thinking she’s the prettiest woman he had ever seen. He smiled as he walked toward her. Hindi niya napigilang haplusin ng mga daliri ang cream sa pisngi nito.

“What did you prepare?”

“Just some brownies and cookies.”

Napasulyap siya sa mga ginawa nito. May dalawang tray ng brownies at powdered doughnuts na nakahain sa mesa.

Hindi niya napigilan ang matawa. “I’ve only been gone thirty minutes. Paano ka nakagawa ng ganyan kadami? Who are you? Quicksilver?”

She crinkled her nose and he found himself smiling broadly. She was really pretty.

“Well, marami kang ready ingredients at may tatlo kang oven. Seriously, sino’ng may tatlong oven sa bahay?”

“Seriously, who bakes this much in thirty minutes?” He chuckled and licked the cream in his finger.

Napakagat-labi ito at namula sa ginawa niya. He only grinned at her.

Pinaikot nito ang mga mata. “I’m sorry, hindi ko namalayan na marami na pala ’kong ginawa. I’m this way when I’m depressed.” Bumuntong-hininga ito at umupo sa stool. Kumuha ito ng brownie at kinagatan iyon.

Umupo siya sa tabi nito at kumuha rin ng brownie. He took a bite and thought he’d gone to heaven.

“Wow, this is good, are you a pastry chef?”

“No, I’m a systems manager.”

“Oh,” ang tangi niyang nasabi. He took another bite of the brownie. “So why are you depressed?” he asked, trying not to sound too nosy. Nang hindi ito magsalita ay mahina niyang binangga ng balikat niya ang balikat nito.

“Why?” ulit niya.

Sumimangot ito. “Can’t you take a hint? Hindi ako sumagot kaya ibig sabihin ayokong pag-usapan.”

Ngumisi siya. “Come on, we’re stuck here for at least two days, malakas ang ulan sa labas. I don’t think it’s safe for us to leave even if we want to. We might as well talk to each other. Why are you depressed?”

She huffed like an annoyed kitten and grumbled under her breath. Lalong lumapad ang kanyang ngiti. She was cute when she was angry.

“Aside from the fact that I had unprotected sex with a complete stranger? Well, my fiancé cheated on me and my father insisted that I go on with the engagement.”

Agad nawala ang ngiti niya. Hindi niya napansin ang komento nito tungkol sa unprotected sex with a complete stranger. Natuon ang lahat ng atensyon niya sa pangalawang pangungusap nito.

“I thought you said you didn’t have a fiancé.”

“I don’t. He’s my ex-fiancé now, although hindi pa niya alam. Ngayon pa lang kami dapat mag-uusap. But seriously, matapos ko siyang makita na

kalingkisan 'yung sekretarya niya kagabi, tingin ba niya magpapakasal pa rin ako sa kanya? I'm not that stupid.”

She started munching on her brownie again. He watched her mouth as she nibbled on the decadent confectionery.

“So iyon ang rason kung bakit ka nandoon sa gitna ng ulan kagabi?” He watched her tongue lick the chocolate on the corner of her lips.

“Yep. Cliché, I know. I was angry last night. But you know what? I think this is for the better.”

Napataas ang tingin niya sa mga mata nito. Nakatiim-labi na ito at may determinadong ekspresyon sa maamo nitong mukha.

“I think this is like a wake up call. You may not believe it, but I'm actually '*Miss Prim and Proper*'. As in! I never had a boyfriend while I was studying, I never cheated on my exams, I always did my homework, I always followed curfew rules, wala akong nakaaway na classmates, *nada*. I was candidate for Miss Goody Two-Shoes.” Seryoso itong tumitig sa kanya at hindi niya napigilan ang pagtaas ng sulok ng labi.

“I believe you. You're a virgin when I took you, remember?”

Namula ang mukha nito at matalim siyang tinitigan. Hindi niya napigilan ang pagngisi. Tingin niya ay mawiwili siyang asarin ito kung lagi itong mamumula at tititigan siya nang ganoon. She was just so pretty when she was angry.

Humalukipkip ito at inis siyang pinukol ng tingin.

“As I was saying, this is a wake up call. It’s time to reboot my life. Don’t get me wrong, hindi ako magwawala at magiging rebelde, I just think it’s time for a little change. I’ve always been a good girl, following the people around me, trying very hard to please them. Una ’yung Daddy ko, ’tapos si Gedrick. Do you know I even think about them whenever I choose or buy my clothes? Gan’on katindi ang epekto nila sa buhay ko.” Matabang ang tono nito habang nagkukuwento, walang pait o galit doon. She just sounded tired, fed up. Malungkot itong ngumiti at tumitig sa kanya. “Am I boring you?”

Nagkibit-balikat siya.

Marahan itong ngumiti. “You’re a good listener, ni hindi ko kailangan ng alcohol para ikuwento ang drama ng buhay ko sa ’yo.”

“Why do you sound so surprised?”

“Well, you don’t look like the type who’d tolerate

a woman's whining.”

Nainsulto siya roon. Ano ang tingin nito sa kanya? His father actually raised him to be a gentleman. Tumawa ito sa ekspresyon niya pagkatapos ay muling tumitig sa mga brownies nito.

“I’m saying I want to start over from now on. Find what I really want in my life and all. Pasensya na kung ginagawa kitang emotional trash can. But you asked for it. I guess I’m spilling my guts out to you because I don’t know you. Sabi nga nila, mas madaling magkuwento ng problema sa isang estranghero kaysa sa mga taong malapit sa ’yo. After all, pagkatapos nito, we probably won’t see each other again.”

Agad siyang napakunot doon. “I don’t think so. We didn’t use protection, remember?”

Sumimangot ito pero muling namula ang mga pisngi. “Then maybe I shouldn’t have poured my heart out then,” she grumbled.

He just grinned and took another bite of the brownie in his hand.

Tumunog ang alarm ng isa sa mga oven at tumayo ito para kunin ang laman niyon. Noon biglang kumidlat nang matalim at sinundan iyon ng dagundong ng kulog. Kumisap ang ilaw sa kitchen at

namatay. Binalot ng dilim ang buong paligid.

Narinig niyang napatili si Eva at may kung anong bumagsak.

“Eva!” Agad siyang napatayo at hinagilap ito.

“I’m okay! Natisod lang!” She squeaked as his arms went around her.

Nakapulupot ang mga braso niya sa baywang nito at nakalapat ang katawan nito sa kanya. He could feel her heart beating madly in her chest as he pressed her closer to him.

Napalunok siya. She was so soft against him. Magkahalo ang amoy ng pampaligong sabon at ng matamis na powdered sugar sa katawan nito. Bago pa niya napigilan ang sarili, ibinaba niya ang mukha at isinubsob sa leeg nito. He took deep breaths of her comforting scent.

She smelled like pastries, like freshly cut grass... like home.

“What are you doing?” Nanginginig ang tinig nito.

“You just smell so good.” Humigpit ang yakap niya rito at idinikit niya ang labi sa leeg nito.

Napasinghap ito at napahawak sa kanyang buhok.

“Damien!” It was somewhere between a protest and a moan.

Inangat niya ang mukha. Mula sa kaunting liwanag mula sa madilim na langit sa labas, naaninag niya ang mukha ng dalaga. Bahagyang nakaawang ang mapupula nitong mga labi at namumula rin ang mga pisngi.

Pumikit siya at idinampi ang mga labi sa labi nito. She stiffened but did not pull away. He darted out his tongue and slowly traced the edge of her plump lower lip. Before he could stop himself, he had pulled her lip inside his mouth and suckled on it. She moaned in his mouth. His whole body hardened and he slid his tongue inside her mouth. Their tongues mated and he groaned. She tasted like chocolate and honey.

Nang magmulat siya ay maliwanag na ulit. Nagbalik na ang ilaw at napapaliguan na muli sila ng puting liwanag ng fluorescent.

Nanginginig itong nagpakawala ng hininga. Her sweet breath touched his lips and he wanted nothing more than to lean down and devour her lips again.

“I... I think we need to look for flashlights.”

Lumunok ito at itinulak siya.

Lumunok din siya at binitawan ito. Nanatili itong nakatitig sa lahat ng nasa paligid puwera sa kanya.

“Baka mawalan ulit ng ilaw nang mas matagal, we need flashlights.”

Bago pa siya nakasagot ay tumakbo ito palabas ng kitchen. Napabuga siya ng hangin at naisuklay ang mga daliri sa buhok.

“Damn,” he muttered under his breath.